

Recognising Extremism

Early indicators of radicalisation or extremism may include:

- showing sympathy for extremist causes
- glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures
- making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school
- evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature
- advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups
- out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent.)
- secretive behaviour
- online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles
- intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality
- graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes
- attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others
- verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views
- advocating violence towards others

You can find more information about radicalisation in our Safeguarding Policy which is available on our website.

If you have **any** concerns about **any** child at **any** time, you should speak to Mr Higgs who is our Single Point of Contact for the Prevent Agenda and our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). In his absence, please speak to Mrs Wicks or Mrs Burlton, the Deputy DSLs.

Information for this Parent Guide has been taken from The Prevent Strategy Parent Pamphlet produced by The Key for School Leaders.



Alverton Primary School



Preventing Radicalisation

Parent Guide

Number 25

What is the Prevent Strategy?

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes.

The Prevent Strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme right wing, violent Islamist groups and other causes.

How does the Prevent Strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015, all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves.

What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent Strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Promoting British Values.

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure that extremist or terrorist materials can't be accessed, or by vetting visitors who come into school to work with pupils.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does Prevent relate to British Values?

Schools have been required to promote British Values since 2014 and this will continue to be part of our response to the Prevent Strategy.

The British Values are:

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Isn't my child too young to learn about extremism?

The Prevent Strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

Is extremism really a risk in our area?

Extremism can take many forms, including political, religious and misogynistic extremism. Some of these may be a bigger threat in our area than others.

We will give the children the skills to protect them from any extremist views they may encounter now or later in their lives.

Key Terms

Extremism - vocal or active opposition to fundamental British Values such as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Ideology - a set of beliefs.

Terrorism - a violent action against people or property, designed to create fear and advance a political, religious or ideological cause.

Radicalisation - the process by which a person comes to support extremism or terrorism.